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by Thomas Meehan in Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, December 1. The tree bearing these anomalous seeds is of considerable age, and stands near Germantown, Pa.—A neatly printed Catalogue of the Phænogamous and vascular cryptogamous plants of Fitchburg [Mass.] and vicinity is worthy of note as being “the work of students of the Fitchburg high school.” It is said to represent “about seven years of diligent research.” It is a very creditable production, and indicates good work in the school.—The Fourth Annual Report of the Board of Control of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station, for the year 1885, appears with a most satisfactory promptness. Its contents show the continuation of the high class of work for which this station has been distinguished.—E. W. D. Holway, of Decorah, Iowa, has made out a set of genus labels of the fungi for use in herbaria. There are about 720 names, which represent, after deducting duplicates, from 500 to 600 different genera. The printing is done by H. N. Patterson, of Oquawka, Ills., which is a sufficient guarantee of the neatness of the typography.

ENTOMOLOGY.

ON THE CINUROUS THYSANURA AND SYMPHYLA OF MEXICO.—It was my good fortune during a short visit to Mexico in the spring of 1885, to discover the one insect which I scarcely hoped to find, so rare are the species and individuals in other parts of the world. This was *Japyx saussurii*, described and figured by Humbert in *Revue et Mag. de Zoologie*, xx, 345, 1868. His descriptions and excellent figures were made from three specimens collected by M. Sumichrast at Santa Cruz, Moyoapam, near Orizaba. It was evidently hopeless to look for Japyx on the Mexican plateau in the dry season, if it lives there at all; though near Vienna *Japyx solifugus* occurs in dry, sandy places, where, in 1872, I had the rare pleasure of observing it under the kind guidance of Dr. Brauer. The Cinuran characteristic of the *tierra templada* is a species of *Machilis*, which was common under stones at Saltillo.

At Cordova, however, owing to the kindness of a Spanish gentleman, the owner of a coffee plantation, who allowed me the use of one of his laborers, an intelligent Indian, I found about a dozen specimens of *Japyx saussurii*, in the shaded damp coffee growth, which my Indian turned up with his hoe from the rich, black soil under fallen banana trunks and loose stones. They seemed to be comparatively common, and very active in their movements.

On comparing with it our northern *J. subterraneus* Pack., from Kentucky, our species is seen to differ decidedly from the Mexican in the much squarer head, which is broader in front; in the broader prothorax, and especially in the longer and narrower tenth abdominal segment. It also differs in the denticulations of

the blades of the forceps (cercopoda), the largest tooth on the inside of the left blade being situated nearer the middle. Our species is also smaller. The number of joints to the antennæ in *℟. subterraneus* are 32; in the Mexican species 40.

Associated with the Japyx and in equal abundance was a *Scolopendrella*, which I at first supposed to be a different and larger species, but which, after a careful microscopical examination, I cannot separate from *S. immaculata* Newport. It has the same general appearance; and the form of the antennæ and number of antennal joints are nearly the same; there being 40–42 joints in the Mexican, and 35–36 in a Kentucky individual. The number of scutes behind the head is the same (16), and their shape exactly the same. The anal cerci are slightly longer than in United States specimens, but the fine setæ are the same in size and arrangement. The specimens are pure white and larger (5^{mm}) than any I have yet seen from the United States.

Campodea mexicana, n. sp.—While *Scolopendrella immaculata* seems to be common to Europe, the United States, and Mexico, and *Campodea staphylinus* Westw., likewise common to Europe and the northern United States, we discovered at Cordova, in company with the foregoing Synaptera, a very distinct species of *Campodea*, which is apparently characteristic of the *tierra caliente* or warm zone of Mexico.

It is a large species, the body 4^{mm}, or 7^{mm}, including the caudal stylets, being but little smaller than *C. cookei* Pack., of Mammoth and adjoining caves, but with much shorter caudal appendages. The body is shorter, the three thoracic segments being shorter than in *C. cookei*. The antennæ are of the length of the body and 28-jointed; the terminal joint is intermediate in shape between *C. staphylinus* and *C. cookei*, being slenderer than in *C. staphylinus*. Dr. J. S. Kingsley has discovered a sense-organ at the end of the last antennal joint of *C. staphylinus*; that of *C. mexicana* is slightly smaller, rounded oval, but situated near the middle of the joint; while that of *C. cookei* is larger than in *C. staphylinus*, but as in that species situated at the end of the joint; the joint in all three species is rich in nerve-cells. The caudal appendages are rather short, and composed of 7–8 long joints. There are other interesting differences from *C. staphylinus*, which, however, could not be understood without figures, which we have prepared, but reserve for a future occasion.—*A. S. Packard.*

THE LOCUST IN SOUTHEASTERN RUSSIA.—The Agricultural Academy in Moscow, has each summer for two years sent Professor K. Lindeman to Southeastern Russia to study the locusts ravaging that region, and the results of his travels have been published in two large works, one (1883) on the locust in the Danubian Cossack region, and the other (1886) on the locust in

the Kouban region. He writes to the editor of the *Entomologische Nachrichten* for Jan., 1886, that he has satisfied himself that the locust (*Acrydium migratorium*) is not peculiarly an inhabitant of the plains or steppes, but that preferably and originally the lower regions of the banks of rivers, where grow *Arundo donax*, *Scirpus*, etc., are its birthplace, from whence it flies out and visits the steppes. *Acrydium migratorium* is in his opinion purely a swamp insect. Its eggs retain their vitality even if the region in which they are laid has remained covered for months in the spring by the water of the river. The larvæ in their third stage are marked with red, because this color protects them in the swamp surroundings in which they live. A group of red locust larvæ, sitting on spears of grass, give the appearance of a group of rushes bearing red ears. The similarity is so great "that I myself sometimes at a distance could not distinguish whether the red spots in a swamp were a colony of locusts or a group of rushes."

ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS.—In a paper on *Parnassius*, a genus of butterflies, read by Mr. H. J. Elwes at the meeting of the Zoölogical Society of London, held Jan. 10, the author paid special attention to the development, functions, and structure of the horny pouch found in the females of this genus. He also described the habits, distribution and variations of twenty-three species which he recognized in the genus. The paper was supplemented by Professor Howe's remarks on his examination of the anatomy of *Parnassius apollo*, and by Mr. Thomson's notes on the habits of the insects as bred in the society's gardens in 1885.—Dr. Witlaczil in *Zoölogischer Anzeiger*, Jan. 18, reaffirms against H. Wedde that the Aphides and Coccidæ suck their food in the same manner as Lepidoptera and other insects.—In the same number O. Poletajewa gives the result of his studies in the structure and function of the heart of insects, to which we shall call attention more fully hereafter.—Mr. A. D. Michael has described before the Linnean Society of London (Nov. 19), the remarkable nymphal stage of an Oribatid (*Tegeocranus cepheiformis*), during which the mite carries on its back as concentric shields the dorsal portions of all its cast-skins.—In the European myriopod, *Sphærotherium*, there is a well defined stridulating apparatus on the male claspers, which produces a shrill note like that of the house-cricket. A true auditory organ exists in the antennary fossa beneath the eye. The tracheal system is unlike the majority of that of the Diplopoda, rather resembling that of Chilopods and insects, though differing in the branched spiral filament not taking origin directly from the stigmata themselves.—A number of new species of American myriopods are described by F. Meinert in the Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society.